

TAGDev 2.0

Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa's Growth and Development



In partnership with



Call for Scholarship Applications under the TAGDev 2.0 Programme for the 2026/2027 Academic Year at University of Cape Coast

Call ID:RU/2026 UCC/TAGDEV2.0



1.0 Background

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, Gulu University (Uganda), Egerton University (Kenya), Africa University (Zimbabwe), University of Free State (South Africa), Malawi University of Science and Technology (Malawi), University of Eldoret (Kenya), Uganda Martyrs University (Uganda), University of Port Harcourt (Nigeria), University of Cape Coast (Ghana), University of Bamenda (Cameroon), National University of Agriculture (Benin), and Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (Morocco) are implementing a 10-year programme (2023-2033) called Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development (TAGDev 2.0). The programme seeks to strengthen universities and TVET institutions to better serve communities by skilling and empowering Africa's young people and their institutions to drive inclusive, equitable and climate-resilient transformation of agriculture and agri-food systems. The TAGDev 2.0 programme will support young African students who are economically disadvantaged but academically competent to access university education. The scholarship is open to both female and male applicants. However, females, refugees, internally displaced persons, and persons with disabilities are highly encouraged to apply.

2.0 Eligible Programmes at University of Cape Coast

This call for Scholarships for the 2026/2027 academic year is open to applicants interested in and eligible to study Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Extension and Community Development, Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness, Bachelor of Science in Horticulture, Master of Philosophy in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Master of Philosophy in Agricultural Extension, Master of Philosophy in Aquaculture, Master of Philosophy in Crop Science Programme at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana.

2.1. Admission requirements to the University of Cape Coast and the specific academic programmes

Bachelors Programmes	Admission Requirements
BSc. Agriculture	<p>WASSCE/SSSCE: Applicants should have credit passes in six (6) subjects with an overall aggregate of 36/24 at the WASSCE/SSSCE respectively. Three of the six subjects should be in English Language, Core Mathematics, Integrated Science or Social Studies and three must be in relevant electives. For purposes of admission, credits pass in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> WASSCE means A1 – C6 SSSCE means A – D <p>In addition, candidates must have credit passes in three (3) Elective Subjects under any of the options listed below:</p> <p>OPTION ONE: General Agriculture, Chemistry and any one other Science/Agriculture subject OPTION TWO: Chemistry, Biology and Physics/Elective Mathematics OPTION THREE: Any three subjects from the following Agricultural Science Electives (General Agriculture, Crop Husbandry and Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Agricultural Mechanization, Fisheries and Forestry).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Certificate of Education (GCE) Advanced Level: Applicants should, in addition to credit passes in five (5) GCE 'O' Level subjects (including English and Mathematics), have three (3) passes in the relevant subjects at the Advanced Level. International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE): Applicants should have credit passes in five (5) GCE 'O' Level subjects (including English and Mathematics) and three (3) passes in the relevant subjects at the Advanced Level. International Baccalaureate (IB): Applicants should have a minimum of grade 4 at the Higher Level in three (3) subjects relevant to the Programme of choice (minimum of grade 5 for Health and Allied Sciences). Applicants should, in addition, have a minimum of grade 4 in English/Literature and Mathematics (SL).
BSc Agricultural Extension and Community Development	<p>To qualify for admission, an applicant must meet the following minimum requirements:</p> <p>SSSCE/WASSCE Certificate Applicants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Candidates must have a maximum aggregate of 20 and pass the following core subjects: English Language, Mathematics, and Integrated Science. In addition to the above, candidates must have passes not lower than D7 (C) in elective subjects under option 1, 2 or 3 below: <p>OPTION ONE: General Agriculture, Chemistry, Physics/Elective Mathematics OPTION TWO: Biology, Chemistry, Physics/Elective Mathematics OPTION THREE: UCC Remedial Agriculture, Remedial Science programme, Biology/Horticulture/Agro-Forestry.</p>

BSc Agribusiness	<p>To qualify for admission, an applicant must meet the following minimum requirements:</p> <p>SSCE/WASSCE Applicants</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Candidates must possess Credit passes (C6 for WASSCE and D for SSSCE) in the 3 Core subjects (English Language, Mathematics and Integrated Science/Social Studies) In addition, candidates must have Credit passes in three (3) Elective Subjects under any of the options listed below: <p>OPTION ONE: Any three subjects from General Agriculture, Chemistry, Physics, Elective Mathematics and Biology.</p> <p>OPTION TWO: Any three subjects from Chemistry, Biology Physics and Elective Mathematics.</p> <p>OPTION THREE: Any three subjects from the following Agricultural Science Electives: General Agriculture, Crop Husbandry and Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Forestry.</p> <p>OPTION FOUR: Three passes in technical courses including at least one science subject.</p> <p>OPTION FIVE: Three passes in Visual Art Courses include at least one science subject.</p> <p>OPTION SIX: Three passes in Home Economic courses including at least one science subject.</p> <p>OPTION SEVEN: Three passes in courses in General Arts or Business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-Secondary Certificate Applicants: Candidate with post-secondary teacher's certificate or certificate from agricultural training colleges will be considered for admission into level 200 or 300 depending on their performance at the post-secondary certificate level. Candidates must pass a selection interview. Foreign student applicants: Foreign students may be admitted on the basis of qualification from their home country for which the Ghana Tertiary Education Commission (GTEC) shall determine equivalences and eligibility based on NAB Act 2007 (Act 744, 2-2b). Evidence of proficiency in English Language will be required in the case of applicants from non-English speaking countries.
BSc Horticulture	<p>WASSCE and SSCE Holders:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The candidates must possess credit passes not lower than C6 for WASSCE and D for SSSCE in three (3) Core Subjects including English Language and Mathematics In addition, candidates must have credit passes in three (3) elective subjects under any of the options below: <p>OPTION ONE: General Agriculture, Chemistry and any one other Science/Agriculture subject</p> <p>OPTION TWO: Chemistry, Biology and Physics/Elective Mathematics</p> <p>OPTION THREE: Any three subjects from the following Agricultural Science Electives – General Agriculture, Crop Husbandry and Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Forestry.</p> <p>OPTION FOUR: Three passes in technical courses including at least one science subject.</p> <p>OPTION FIVE: Three passes in Visual Art courses including at least one science subject.</p> <p>OPTION SIX: Three passes in Home Economics courses including at least one science subject.</p> <p>OPTION SEVEN: Three passes in technical courses including at least one science subject.</p> <p>OPTION EIGHT: Three passes in Visual Art courses including at least one science subject.</p> <p>OPTION NINE: Three passes in Home Economics courses including at least one science subject.</p> <p>The overall aggregate for the six subjects, under the options must not exceed 36 (WASSCE) or 24 (SSSCE).</p>
Masters Programmes Admission Requirements	
M.Phil. Molecular Biology and Biotechnology	<p>Entry requirements for entry into MPhil Programmes are spelt out in the School of Graduate Studies Academic Policy Guidelines of UCC. A candidate seeking admission to the MPhil Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Programme must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Have obtained a good first degree in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology or Biological Sciences or in any relevant field of study from an accredited tertiary institution. Non-researched master's degree holder with a CGPA of 2.5 or better (top-up to MPhil). Submit an official transcript of your academic record and a copy of your certificate. Submit, at least, two reference reports, one of which must be from a former lecturer. Submit a research proposal in the intended area of research. Pass a selection interview where necessary. try requirements for entry into MPhil Programmes are spelt out in the School of Graduate Studies Academic Policy Guidelines of UCC.

M.Phil. Agricultural Extension	<p>To be admitted to the programme, a candidate must have obtained</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. A good first degree at least Second-Class Lower Division or better from a recognized institution or Cumulative Grade Point (CGPA) of 2.5 on a 1 - 4 scale or its equivalence in agriculture or related field. ii. A considerable working experience preferably in Agriculture will be an advantage but not a prerequisite iii. Foreign students may be admitted based on qualification from their home country for which the Ghana Tertiary Education Commission (GTEC) shall determine equivalences and eligibility based on NAB Act 2007 (Act 744, 2-2b). iv. Evidence of proficiency in English will be required for applicants from non-English speaking countries.
MPhil Aquaculture	<p>Candidates applying for the M. Phil. programme in Aquaculture must have;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. At least a second class (lower division) B. Sc. degree in the Biological Sciences with evidence of knowledge based on students' transcript. ii. Students with an Agricultural Science background (e.g., Animal Science, Agriculture Extension) with at least a Second Class (Lower Division)
MPhil Crop Science Programme	<p>A first-degree holder seeking admission into the M.Phil. programme must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Have obtained a good first degree (at least, a Second Class) in an appropriate field of study from a recognized university. ii. Submit an official transcript of academic record. iii. Submit at least, two reference reports, one of which must be from a former lecturer. iv. Submit a proposal of 2-3 pages on the intended area of study, including a bibliography. v. Satisfy any additional requirement that may be prescribed by the College/School/ Department from time to time <p>A successful applicant will be offered probationary admission as a Postgraduate Research Student (PRS) for the first year. Students may progress to the second year after having satisfied the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Completed two semesters of coursework. ii. Obtained a CGPA of 2.5 or better (An MPhil candidate who obtains a CGPA between 2.00 and 2.49 may opt for a step-down MSc degree). iii. Taken a course in academic writing and passed. iv. Successfully defended a research proposal before a Departmental examining panel <p>Non-research Master's Degree holders seeking admission to the MPhil programme must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Have obtained a CGPA of 2.5 or better in the master's coursework. ii. Submit an official transcript of academic record. iii. Submit at least, two reference reports, one of which must be from a former lecturer. iv. Submit a proposal of 2-3 pages on the intended area of study, including a bibliography. v. Satisfy any additional requirement that may be prescribed by the College/School/ Department from time to time.

2.2. Contact Information

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3.0 Eligibility for Scholarships

3.1. Who is eligible to apply?

Scholarships are open to candidates in Ghana from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Candidates from conflict and post-conflict areas of Africa residing in Ghana are also encouraged to apply. The applicant has to be in a position to qualify for admission into undergraduate and/or postgraduate programmes at the University of Cape Coast. All applicants should read and thoroughly understand the admission criteria for the relevant programmes at the University of Cape Coast. Students already having a scholarship of any kind are not eligible to benefit from this scholarship opportunity. Anyone with a double scholarship if found will automatically be disqualified. Beneficiaries of TAGDev scholarships are not eligible to apply.

3.2. Selection criteria

- i. Be a national of Ghana or a refugee resident in Ghana to benefit from the national respective scholarship quota.
- ii. Be from economically disadvantaged, marginalized communities, and/or coming from conflict and post conflict areas in Ghana.
- iii. Be less than 30 years for undergraduate and less than 35 years for masters studies at the time of application.
- iv. Should have completed secondary school and/or diploma for a Bachelors degree application not more than four years (2022-2025) from the time of this call.
- v. The applicant should meet admission criteria to be eligible programs in University of Cape Coast.
- vi. For admission into University of Cape Coast for an undergraduate degree Programme one must have attained the following basic requirements:
 - a) WASSCE/SSSCE— Applicants should have credit passes (WASSCE means A1-C6, SSSCE means A-D) in six (6) subjects with an overall aggregate of 36/24 at the WASSCE/SSSCE respectively. Three of the six subjects should be core subjects: English Language, Mathematics, Integrated Science or Social Studies and three must be in relevant electives; b) General Certificate of Education (GCE) Advanced Level— Applicants should, in addition to credit passes in five (5) GCE 'O' Level subjects (including English and

Mathematics), have three (3) passes in the relevant subjects at the Advanced Level; c) General Business Certificate Examination (GBCE)— Applicants should have credit passes (A-D) in six (6) subjects comprising three (3) core subjects including English Language and Mathematics plus three (3) relevant elective subjects; d) International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)— Applicants should have credit passes in five (5) GCE 'O' Level subjects (including English and Mathematics) and three (3) passes in the relevant subjects at the Advanced Level; e) International Baccalaureate (IB)— Applicants should have a minimum of grade 4 at the Higher Level in three (3) subjects relevant to the Programme of choice (minimum of grade 5 for Health and Allied Sciences). Applicants should, in addition, have a minimum of grade 4 in English/Literature and Mathematics (SL).

- vii. Demonstrate interest in agriculture, agribusiness and entrepreneurship
- viii. Demonstrate leadership qualities
- ix. Have a commitment to working in agriculture and agricultural value chains
- x. Have a strong commitment to community transformation
- xi. Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply.

3.3. What the scholarship covers

This is a full board comprehensive scholarship that covers: tuition fees, research costs, workshop and conference costs, living expenses including stipend and hostel, laptop, internship attachment, community engagement and field attachment, and entrepreneurship training. Consequently, considering the level of investment, successful applicants will be required to become high achievers, highly engaging and focused students/ graduates and change makers contributing to outreach services in the communities, capable of creating enterprises that create jobs for themselves and others and have personal satisfaction and dynamism.

3.4. Support to Refugees, Displaced Persons (RDPs) and Persons With Disabilities (PWDs).

In addition to other scholars benefits, RDPs and PWDs will receive the following support:

1. RDPs will be supported with travel documents.
2. PWDs will receive assistive devices to support learning and movement during the course of studies.

3.5. Nature of the scholarship

This is a comprehensive scholarship with direct and indirect costs that will be covered by the programme through the implementing university where the student will be studying. Indirect costs such as participation in the international conference will be directly covered by the RUFORUM Secretariat. The following further apply:

- i. Direct costs for student training will be transferred to the university as a grant payable. The students will receive their respective services and entitlements from the university as the implementer and where necessary from RUFORUM.
- ii. All scholarships will be on a rolling basis implying that, the scholarship will be renewed on an annual basis subject to satisfactory academic performance at the grade B level of the University of Cape Coast.
- iii. Retaking more than four courses will lead to the withdrawal of the scholarship awarded to the candidate.
- iv. Applicants who may be discovered to have falsified information to gain advantage of the scholarship shall be disqualified on confirmation of the falsification and/or forgery.
- v. Any misconduct (breaching university rules, especially examination malpractice, violence towards others) on the part of the successful applicant shall lead to automatic disqualification and loss of the scholarship.
- vi. Successful applicants will be expected to become champions and transformative leaders, entrepreneurs and change-makers at various levels and shall remain communicating with RUFORUM and the Universities as part of the Programme Alumni.

4.0. Application process and procedure

4.1. Application for university admission at the University of Cape Coast

All applications for admission to the University of Cape Coast must follow any of the processes below:

Application via online

- 1) Go to the University of Cape Coast website <https://www.ucc.edu.gh/node/17866>
- 2) Go to Admissions and click TAGDev 2.0 Admissions 2026
- 3) Go to Apply for Admission here - TAGDev 2.0 Admissions - University of Cape Coast
- 4) Proceed to the online application form by Selecting Your Application Type

- 5) Fill out the appropriate application form, and save it.
- 6) Remember to apply for the scholarship via <https://rims2.ruforum.org/>
- 7) Submit your Completed Application form with the following documents:
 - a) Transcript(s)/ Results Slip(s)/Certificate(s)
 - b) Birth Certificate
 - c) Print out and scan completed RUFORUM Scholarship Application forms online following the <https://www.ucc.edu.gh/node/17866>.

Application via Email.

- 1) Go to the University of Cape Coast website <https://www.ucc.edu.gh/node/17866>
- 2) Go to Admissions and click TAGDev 2.0 Admissions 2026
- 3) Go to Apply for Admission here - TAGDev 2.0 Admissions - University of Cape Coast
- 4) Download appropriate admission forms (Undergraduate or postgraduate)
- 5) Fill out the application form.
- 6) Remember to apply for the RUFORUM scholarship via <https://rims2.ruforum.org/>
- 8) Submit your application form with the following documents to tagdev2.0@ucc.edu.gh:
 - a) Transcript(s)/ Results Slip(s)/Certificate(s)
 - b) Birth Certificate
 - c) Print out and scan completed Scholarship Application forms.

4.2. Application for Scholarship

The procedure for submitting the TAGDev 2.0 scholarship application through the RUFORUM Information Management System (RIMS) is as follows:

- i. Access the RIMS Web Portal through; <https://rims2.ruforum.org/>
- ii. Create your account by clicking on **Register Here**
- iii. An email will be sent to your valid email address to activate your account. Please check the Spam or Junk for messages in case activation mail is not reflected in your inbox.
- iv. Login using your email and password you used for creating.
- v. After successful login, the Applicant Dashboard will appear with different options.
- vi. Go to Calls –> Scholarship Calls
- vii. Select the Call ID: RU/2026 UCC/TAGDEV2.0
- viii. Click **APPLY** to start filling out the Application Form.
- ix. Remember to save while filling the form by **“Clicking Save Draft”**

For any assistance, kindly contact the administrator at mcf@ruforum.org

Dates for key Virtual Information Session Days shall be communicated in due course.

Submission Deadline: 1st May 2026